

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 03896 012100Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4349

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 3896

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PN, MX, PFOR, PQ

SUBJ: GENERAL TORRIJOS TO VISIT MEXICAN PRESIDENT

1. PANAMANIAN CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT, GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS, AND A PARTY OF THIRTY-THREE WILL FLY TO TUXTLA, THE CAPITAL OF THE MEXICAN STATE OF CHIAPAS, FRIDAY JULY 4 FOR A ONE DAY MEETING WITH MEXICAN PRESIDENT LIC. LUIS ECHEVERRIA, ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS JULY 1. THE DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE FOUR MINISTERS OF STATE, TWO PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS AND MINISTER-NEGOTIATOR JUAN ANTONIO TACK, WHO IS PRESENTLY ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM HIS POSITION OF FOREIGN MINISTER. MEXICAN AMBASSADOR IN PANAMA CORONEL VICENTE HERRERA BRAMBILA WILL ACCOMPANY THE GROUP.

2. APPARENTLY THE VISIT WAS ARRANGED AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE MEXICANS. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE DR. MANUEL VELASCO SUAREZ, CHIAPAS GOVERNOR AND PERSONAL FRIEND OF ECHEVERRIA, MADE THE ARRANGEMENTS. THE PANAMANIAN PRESS HAS PORTRAYED IT AS OFFERING TORRIJOS ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE LATIN AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR PANAMA'S CANAL ASPIRATIONS.

3. THE CABINET MINISTERS ON THE DELEGATION ARE MINISTER OF

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PAGE 02 PANAMA 03896 012100Z

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT GERARDO GONZALEZ, COMMERCE AND

INDUSTRIES MINISTER FERNANDO MANFREDO, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC
POLICY MINISTER NICOLAS ARDITO BARLETTA, JUSTICE AND GOVERN-
MENT MINISTER RICARDO RODRIGUEZ. ALSO, VERAGUAS PROVINCE
GOVENOR HERMAN VASQUEZ, CHIRIQUI PROVINCE GOVENOR ARNULFO
BOUTET, HYDRAULICS AND ELECTRIFICATION INSTITUTE DIRECTOR
ARQ. EDWIN FABREGA, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION MEMBERS
RUBEN DARIO HERRERA AND ERNESTO PERRZ BALLADARES AND A
NATIONAL GUARD GROUP CONSISTING OF EIGHT CAPTAINS AND TWO
LIEUTENANTS ARE ON THE DELEGATION.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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